THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF CANADA
21 DUNDAS SQUARE TORONTO, ONTARIO

The NEWS BULLETIN

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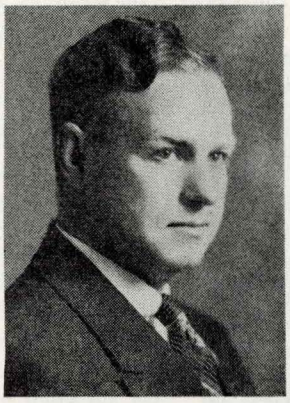
REGIONAL CONFERENCES INDICATE Y.M.C.A. "ON THE MARCH"



R. S. HOSKING

For the purpose of giving intensive, quiet study to the recommendations contained in "The Years Ahead", a number of regional conferences, convened by the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., have been going on during February in Moncton, Vancouver, Ottawa, Calgary, Regina and London. A conference is scheduled in Hamilton on March 2 and 3.

Actually, the regional conferences are but the second phase of a three-stage plan to drive home the significance of the Y.M.C.A. Study Report. The first stage was the holding of conferences within local Associations to give an over-all study to the report. The regional conferences are the second step, when groups of Association representatives meets together and discuss how the report is being received in their Association. The third stage comes later, when local Associations will give continued and extended study to the whole recommendations.

The Moncton and Vancouver regional conferences were held simultaneously on Feb. 10 and 11; the Ottawa and Calgary conferences on Feb. 16 and 17; the Regina and London ones on March 23 and 24. R. S. Hosking, general secretary of the National Council; Dr. Ken Norris, of Montreal, and Merl Harding, of the National Council, attended the Moncton and Ottawa conferences. Dr. Norris was chairman of the Study Committee responsible for "The Years Ahead."

Good attendances marked all the conferences. There were 50 present at Moncton, 65 at Ottawa, 57 at Vancouver. At the Ottawa conference Mr. Justice Roy Kellock presided. Those present included H. Jasper Humphrey, president of the National Council; H. S. Southam, George Hodge, A. A. Crawley, R. E. G. Davis and others. Delegates to the Vancouver conference were predominantly young men from all parts of B.C. Dr. Norman MacKenzie gave a challenging address on the tasks facing the Y.M.C.A. Discussion among delegates revealed that already there was much being done in local Associations about the recommendations contained in "The Years Ahead." There was strong agreement that the Y.M.C.A. should major on the group of 15 to 24-year-old youth.

At Vancouver there was a general agreement expressed against creating regional offices of the National Council. Strong desire for specialist services and more aggressive leadership from the National Council offices was expressed.

"The Y.M.C.A. is on the march," seemed to be the feeling at Vancouver.

R. S. Hosking, on his return from Ottawa and Moncton, said that both conferences had impressed him greatly. A great new spirit seemed to be moving through the movement, he said. The conferences were greatly concerned with the restlessness of youth in the age group of 15 to 24. Most of these young people hadn't been in the war, but had suffered by its impact. The problem of returned servicemen also concerned the delegates. A great many servicemen had returned to civilian life and ordinary membership in the Y.M.C.A. without much readjustment, but there were those who needed a rallying-point, a canteen, a club-house, where they could talk with old friends.

"We faced up to the fact that there is a great need for leadership training," he said.

Y.M.C.A. Staff School, 1946

Dean Harry Hall and the Staff of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. have been busy planning the Y.M.C.A. Staff School, which will be held at Geneva Park, Aug. 24 to Sept. 10.

The School this year is planned for both senior and junior secretaries. There will be two divisions, the senior division for mature Y.M.C.A. secretaries and returned servicemen — the other division for younger secretaries and those with less experience.

The major courses will be Religion and Philosophy; recent changes in Canadian life affecting the Y.M.C.A.; group work supervision, and leadership training; camp administration; program specifics and techniques for the 15 to 24-year-old group; administration and swimming.

Announcement from T. H. Hutchinson, secretary, personnel division, indicates "there is a growing conviction that this School has a very vital place in the life of our secretaries."

The best possible leadership is now being secured for the Staff School.

Announcing!

Y.M.C.A. STAFF SCHOOL

Reorientation for Secretaries returned from services . . .
Basic courses for young Secretaries . . .
Refresher courses for experienced Executives.

LAKE COUCHICHING

August 24th-September 10th

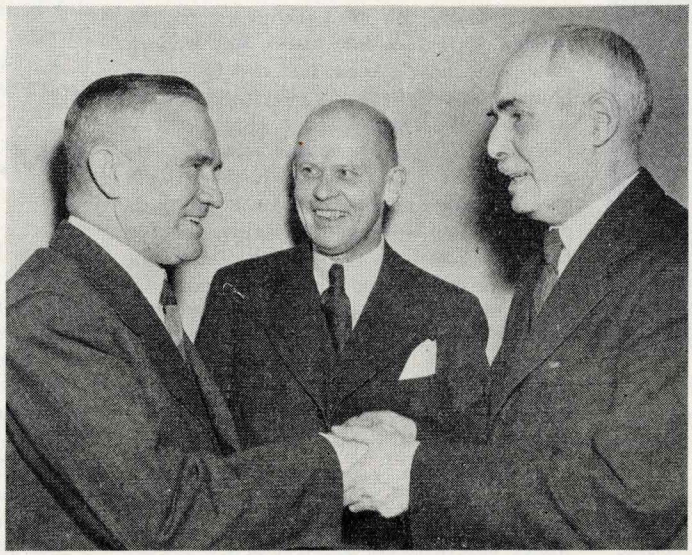
Tributes Paid to Ed. Otter and Dick Davis

Two veteran Y.M.C.A. officials were recently honored by their colleagues at a testimonial dinner held at Central Y.M.C.A., Toronto. The Y men honored were R. E. G. Davis, who had left Y.M.C.A. work to become executive director of the Canadian Welfare Council, and Ed Otter, for five years the Senior Overseas Secretary for the Canadian Y.M.C.A. War Services, who has become associated with the transportation department of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. of United States. Mr. Davis' headquarters are now in Ottawa, and Mr. Otter works out of New York City.

The dinner in their honor was strictly a "family" affair. Lt.-Col. F. W. Miller, vice-president of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., presided, with Richard S. Hosking, general secretary, at his left. J. P. Patterson, now president of Broadview Y.M.C.A., and Wally Kemball, formerly secretary at the Beaver Club, London, England, paid high tribute to the long service Ed Otter has given to the Y.M.C.A. Otter started his association with the Y at Broadview Y, in the days of C. J. Atkinson. He served in the first World War and when World War II broke he was among the first to offer his services. Overseas he travelled 47,000 miles by air, and 150,000 miles by road.

Grahame Watt, secretary of North Toronto Y.M.C.A., and Dr. Ernest Best, former general secretary of the National Council and now with Springfield College, spoke of "Dickey" Davis' valued services for the Y.M.C.A. and the youth of Canada. Former personnel secretary for the National Council, Dickey served as director of the Canadian Youth Commission for two years. He started his Y career in London, Ontario, and served also in Montreal.

Gifts were presented to Messrs. Otter and Davis. Flowers were presented to their wives. The occasion was also marked by a presentation of the Roberts-Gulick award to A. Merl Harding. Wes McVicar, physical director of Central Y.M.C.A., made the presentation.



Lt.-Col. F. W. Miller, Council Vice-President, bids good-bye to Ed. Otter, while Dick Davis looks on.

"The Years Ahead"

A second printing of the Y.M.C.A. Study Report is on the press. **Order now!**

Lord Mayor Praises Leeds Club

Expressing his wonder at the high standard of efficiency and the evident appreciation of the thousands of servicemen who have made use of the club's facilities, the Lord Mayor and Mayoress of Leeds paid tribute to members of the staff of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. Club in Briggate, Leeds, England, following a visit to the club shortly before the new year.

Following a welcome at the door by the senior supervisor, Harold Goodman, the manager, Mr. Searles and Mrs. Palmer, hostess, the Lord Mayor and Mayoress made a thorough tour of the establishment, visiting the apple juice bar, the lower lounge and games room prior to an inspection of the comfortable sleeping quarters upstairs.

Thousands of Canadian servicemen and ex-servicemen who are familiar with the club will be interested to learn that it is not scheduled to close its doors but possibly will be taken over by British authorities as a leave centre for British sailors, soldiers and airmen.

During the year and a half that the club operated under the direction of the Canadian Y, thousands of Canadan service personnel utilized the efficient services of the organization. Figures which cover a period of 12 months show that 32,300 men were accommodated with as many as 200 occupying the 100 rooms, the lounge, and any other part of the building that could be adapted for sleeping. Exclusive of the rations of chocolates, chewing gum, peanuts and cigarets for 72,000 men, close to 84,000 meals were served during the year. The night canteen facilities were utilized by 15,000 servicemen.

For the last two or three months of the past year most of the club's visitors were soldiers — many on leave from Germany. The familiar R.C.A.F. uniforms have been scarce for quite some time as the majority of Canadian airmen have returned home.

Repaying what Mr. Searls described as the wonderful hospitality displayed by the people of Leeds, the staff of the club served 156 free meals of turkey and Christmas pudding and on Boxing Day about 50 children whose fathers were killed in the war were entertained at a party.

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21 DUNDAS SQ. - TORONTO
H. JASPER HUMPHREY, *President*
HAROLD R. FROST, K.C.,
Chairman, Executive Committee
R. S. HOSKING, *General Secretary*

WHILE THEY LAST!

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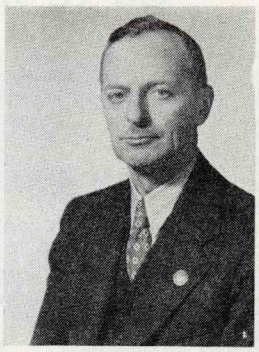
World's Alliance Meeting

At least three prominent Canadian Y.M.C.A. officials will represent the National Council of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. at the meeting of the World's Alliance of the Young Men's Christian Association to be held at Geneva, Switzerland, February 28 to March 6 of this year.

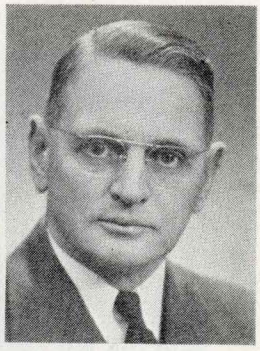
As chairman of the boys' work committee of the World's Alliance of the Y.M.C.A. and as a lay representative of the Canadian Movement, Taylor Statten, former president and former general secretary of the Toronto Y.M.C.A., is one of the delegates. The other two are C. A. Schell, executive secretary of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., and W. J. G. Macdiarmid, senior officer of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. War Services Overseas.

Messrs. Statten and Schell flew by Pan-American Clipper from New York to London on February 20th.

Tracy Strong, the General Secretary of the World's Alliance, is now arranging air transport for the Canadian delegates from London to Geneva and return. Both Mr. Statten and Mr. Schell intend to be back in New York on March 11 in time for attendance at the International Y.M.C.A. convention, to be held in Atlantic City from March 15 to March 17. There the whole problem of the world-wide Y.M.C.A. will be reviewed by representatives of the two National Councils of the Y.M.C.A., the United States and Canada.



C. A. Schell



Taylor Statten

Preliminary announcement of the World's Alliance of the Y.M.C.A. indicates that the subjects under discussion at Geneva will include:

(1) Facing the world of to-day and to-morrow.

(2) Serving men in prisoner-of-war camps and the armies.

(3) Working for a world Christian community.

(4) Restoring the Y.M.C.A.'s throughout the world.

(5) The function and mission of the world's committees.

(6) Achieving unity in action.

Beaver Club Closes

After six years of magnificent work during which time 17 million individual services were provided to servicemen, the Beaver Club, London, England, closed its doors on February 19th. Eleven million meals were served in the famous "home away from home."

Hundreds of green-smocked workers thronged the main hall for the closing ceremonies, attended by Queen Mary; Field Marshal Harold Alexander, Governor-General designate of Canada; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Massey; Lt.-Gen. J. C. Murchie, Chief of Staff of Canadian Military Headquarters in London; Air Marshal G. O. Johnson, Air Officer Commander-in-charge, R.C.A.F. overseas; Capt. Adrian Hope, Head of the Canadian Naval Mission in London; and Y.M.C.A. War Service officials.

Mrs. Massey cut the birthday cake, and gave the first piece to Queen Mary. The proceedings were broadcast by shortwave to Canada.

HI-Y!

SECOND

CANADIAN HI-Y ASSEMBLY

LAKE COUCHICHING

August 25th-30th

● Every HI-Y Club in Canada should be represented at this history-making conference.

Farm Service Figures

"The boys' camps have efficiently served fruit and vegetable growers in sections of the province at an exceedingly critical time," according to the Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, in a letter of appreciation for the work of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. in conjunction with the Farm Service Force.

In the period of operation from 1942 to 1945, it was reported that a total of 2,258 different boys working in thirty camps from April to September totalled 651,680 hours of work which brought in an earning capacity of $214,104.31. At the outset of the project a working arrangement was decided upon, under which the Ontario Government provided for the financing of the camps while the Y.M.C.A. was made directly responsible for the discipline, organization and recreation.

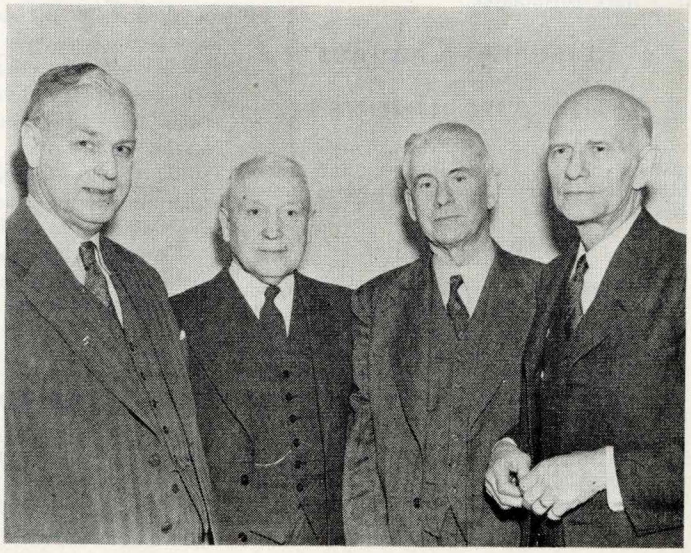
The gathering together of camp directors and counsellors was a real problem, as it was difficult to secure a fairly substantial number of trained staff in a hurry. However, in 1943 the Y.M.C.A. took over the complete catering of the private and government camps. The program of activities, varied from athletics to discussion groups on pertinent political questions and not forgetting the popular social events such as dances, picnics, etc.

For the benefit of the campers, the Y.M.C.A. initiated a health insurance and camp savings plan. It was revealed that $69,000 was saved in the camps during the four years.

The general results of the Farm Service project meant a definite contribution to the war effort. It helped the boys to live, play and work together in a democratic way. In addition, farmers, campers and citizens were better able to understand the efforts of the Y.M.C.A. in promoting civic need.

REUNION OF COUNCIL SECRETARIES

A happy reunion of present and former general secretaries of the National Council occurred at the testimonial dinner to Ed. Otter and R. E. G. Davis recently. Left to right: R. S. Hosking, Dr. Ernest M. Best, Harry Ballantyne and Dr. Charles A. Bishop.



An Important Service in Toronto

Laymen connected with Central Y.M.C.A., Toronto, have combined action with enthusiasm in their whole-hearted support of the fine counselling service in operation at this branch since September, 1943.

Since the service opened, first as a part-time bureau then on a full-time basis, more than 1,500 young men, the majority of them ex-servicemen, have been helped in choosing their vocations by its trained counsellors. As well, practical training in guidance techniques has been provided 40 teachers and personnel men, all of whom are giving at least part of their time to counselling.

Headed by Chairman Frank G. Lawson and Vice-Chairman S. B. Michael, 10 laymen form the counselling service committee. As such, they were responsible for the appointment of full-time counselling director, G. P. Cosgrave, formerly assistant professor of psychology at the University of Toronto. Dr. Cosgrave now has a staff of several assistants.

In many instances, these laymen also serve as counsellors. Their years of business and professional experience provide a wealth of helpful advice they are glad to give young men whose ambition it is to enter their professions.

Take a young man, for instance, whose counselling service tests reveal him to have exceptional ability along mechanical lines. He is referred to a committee member who has had a successful career in engineering. The engineer tells him of the prevailing market for his services. He gives him the names of prospective employers. He may or may not give him letters of introduction.

It is the aim of the counselling service to give young men a more precise picture of their qualifications. Many acquire through their work with this service a new confidence in their ability to carry through plans they have formulated.

Personnel Changes

(To February 15, 1946)

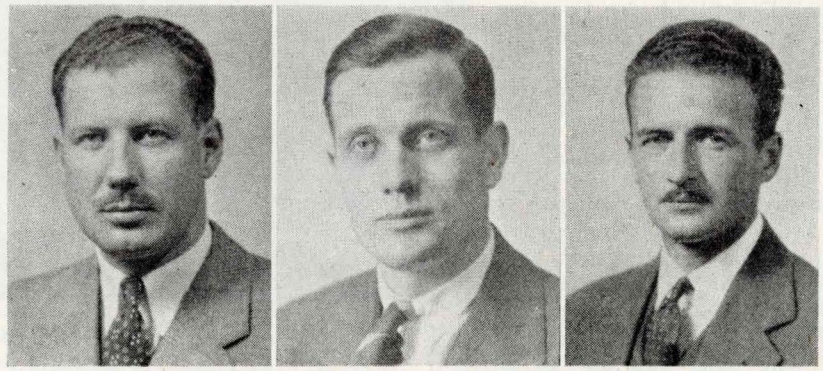
NEW APPOINTMENTS

Bonnenfant, Louis, Physical Director, Ottawa; Clarke, John Gordon, Fellowship, Montreal; Shantz, Murray B., Community, Niagara Falls.

TRANSFERS

Courtney, W. G. B., from Supervisor, War Services, to Membership, Toronto West End; Jacks, Sam, from Supervisor, War Services, to Assistant Physical Director, Toronto West End; Kemball, A. W., from Supervisor, War Services, to Executive Secretary, Montreal Southwestern; Nickerson, Ed. W., from Supervisor, War Services, to Adult Program, Toronto Broadview; Stephens, Gordon, from Supervisor, War Services, to Community, Midland.

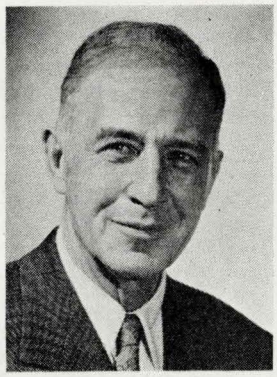
Three New Canadian Secretaries Go to India



Three new Canadian "Y" Secretaries flew to India from England on February 8th. They are: Arthur Peacock and Alfred G. Morris of Hamilton, and L. B. Bagot of Toronto. All three men have been War Services Supervisors overseas and have gone to India for temporary emergency war service work under the International Committee and the Indian National Council. Our prayers and best wishes follow them.

Stanton Turner Visits Canada

E. Stanton Turner, pioneer World Service Secretary in the Philippine Islands, and prisoner in the Santo Tomas prison at Manila, visited Canada this month. Considered by many the outstanding American in the Philippine Islands, Mr. Turner was in charge of civilian emergency preparedness of Manila before the Japanese came. When they occupied the city he not only worked with the secret service, and cooperated extensively with the guerrillas, but he carried on relief and protective work which saved the lives of countless Americans and Britishers as well as Filipinos. Large numbers of American officers and soldiers who escaped after the fall of Bataan he hid in Manila, in the mountains, fed and saw to their protection.



STANTON TURNER

Though being unable to wring confessions through torture from his Filipino co-workers in hopes of giving him the worst treatment — Japanese imprisoned him with Mrs. Turner at Santo Tomas, where he lived in an atmosphere of torture, starvation and death. Mr. Turner lost 67 pounds, but not an ounce of his helpful spirit, hope and courage.

Released when Manila was recaptured, he found that the Y.M.C.A. had carried on heroically under the brilliant leadership of a devoted staff and board composed entirely of Filipinos, despite the fact that most of the Y.M.C.A. buildings had been burned and destroyed. The strength and resilience of the Y.M.C.A. movement throughout the islands is a tribute to the devotion and statesmanship of Mr. Turner, who has labored there unceasingly for 30 years without thought of self.

In the words of Mr. Bascara, the new Filipino head of the "Y" movement, "Mr. Turner has given the Philippines a movement with a clean name and a worthy tradition liberal and progressive in views, tolerant in attitude, flexible and responsive to changing needs, effective in methods, efficient in management and dedicated to the development of a commodity more precious than gold — the character of youth."

Repeatedly offered opportunities of becoming president of colleges as well as important government positions in this country, Mr. Turner has steadfastly turned a deaf ear to all appeals that he leave his work in the islands. He is now in this country on a mission to acquaint the Brotherhood with the problems and opportunities confronting the movement in the islands. He will return to Manila in March.

RESIGNATIONS

Hugg, Alan, from Special Research, Montreal, to Columbia University.

Kidd, J. Roby, from General Program, Ottawa, to Columbia University.

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